

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS:

Claims 1 – 37 are currently pending in the application, with claims 1, 14, 25, 31 and 35 being independent. Independent claims 1 and 31 are currently amended.

Amended Independent Claims 1 and 31

Independent claims 1 and 31 are currently amended to recited an adjustable member having a fixed proximal end and a free distal end, as shown in FIGS. 1, 6 and 7.

U.S. Patent No. 4,893,773 to Fujimoto discloses an article holder for use in a car door, as shown in FIGS. 2 - 4. The article holder has an insertion portion 1, a lateral holding portion 2, and a longitudinal holding portion 3. A truncated disc member 4 and a lateral article support member 5 are defined by a cut line extending from the lateral holding portion 2 to the longitudinal holding portion 3. A plurality of fold lines 11 in the lateral article support member 5 allow the article holder to be adjusted. As shown in FIGS. 2, 4, 6 and 7, the integral truncated disc member 4 and the lateral article support member 5 are connected at a first end to the holding portion 3 and at a second end to the lateral holding portion 2. Furthermore, the integral truncated disc member 4 and the lateral article support member 5 would not function as intended if one of the ends was free, as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 31.

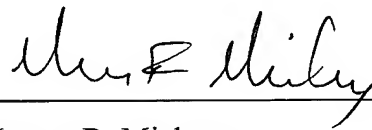
Therefore, the '773 patent to Fujimoto does not teach, disclose or suggest an adjustable member that is fixed at a first end and free at a second end.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and comments, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 – 37 are allowable over the cited patents. Prompt and favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Marcus R. Mickney", is written over a horizontal line.

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